the Bank of Baroda branches at Calcutta, has reported that its investigations are in the final stages. The main reason for the delay in the finalisation of the investigation as reported by the CBI is the huge incriminating documents seized, which had to be scrutinized. It also took time in collecting records from the banks and other agencies.

(b) Punjab & Sind Bank and State Bank of Patiala have reported that there is no further progress in the recovery of their dues from M/s Maher Corporation for which the suits filed by them are pending in the Courts of Law.

Production and distribution of 'Janata Cloth'

1130. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have issued certain guidelines to State Governments for streamlining the production and distribution of 'Janata Cloth';

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether the State Governments are following these guidelines; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the guidelines issued are as as follows:

(i) The Directors in-charge of Handlooms in the States have been designated as nodal agencies for implementation, supervision and monitoring of janata cloth scheme;

(ii) The production agencies of janata cloth in the States have been asked to link the production of janata cloth with their arrangements for supply of raw materials to weavers;

(iii) The State Governments/nodal agencies have been made responsible for making necessary arrangements for sale/distribution of janata cloth within the State;

(iv) Suitable arrangements should be made to certify the arrival of janata cloth at the distribution point before the sale is commenced.

(v) The sale of janata cloth in rural areas should be increased and for this purpose at least one sales outlet should be provided in every Gram Panchayat;

(vi) Each purchaser of janata cloth would be allowed to purchase, at a time, only 2 pieces of dhoties or sarees and 10 metres of dress materials;

(vii) The State Governments should make adequate arrangements to ensure precurement of genuine handloom cloth under the scheme and its distribution to the eligible consumers;

(viii) The production agencies should take all possible steps to ensure that the janata cloth produced by them is of good quality and in keeping with the consumer preferences. For this purpose they may take the assistance of the Weavers' Service Centres;

(ix) while increasing the production under the janata cloth scheme care should be taken by the State Governments to ensure that weavers enaged in the production of better value-added items are not diverted to the production of janata cloth; and

(x) The detailed instructions also outline the procedures for payment of subsidy and submission of periodical reports and returns.

(c) and (d) The implementation of janata cloth scheme is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, with a view to review the implementation of the janata cloth scheme alongwith other schemes of Central Government, a procedure of quarterly review has been initiated.